

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: )  
Francis BLANCHE et al ) Group Art Unit: 1652  
Serial No. (not assigned) ) Examiner: Unassigned  
(Cont. of USSN 08/426,630 )  
Filed: December 1, 2003 )

For: METHODS OF INCREASING THE PRODUCTION OF COBALAMINS USING  
COB GENE EXPRESSION (As Amended).

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Please amend the above-identified patent application as follows:

**Amendments to the Specification** are included in this paper, beginning on  
page 2.

**Remarks** begin on page 3.